

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 SWF-01 RSC-01 NSC-05 EB-07 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FAO UNWFC UNGA ECOSOC UNCTAD
SUBJECT: FAO SECRETARIAT SUPPORT OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

REF: USUN 5319

1. REFTTEL GIVES IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS SOLELY UNITED KINGDOM THAT URGED THAT WORLD FOOD COUNCIL SECRETARIAT SUPPORT CAME FROM WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF FAO AND THAT COUNCIL BE HEADQUARTERED IN ROME. THIS CALLS TO OUR ATTENTION FACT THAT RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS ON FOLLOW-UP INSTITUTIONS ON LAST DAY OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE WERE REPORTED, BUT DEVELOPMENTS LEADING TO THOSE RESULTS WERE NOT FULLY REPORTED. UK LIKE US WAS SPEAKING FOR GROUP B IN CONTACT GROUP, AND ASKED FOR GUIDANCE IN LAST GROUP B MEETING NOVEMBER 16. BROAD AND STRONG VIEWS WERE EXPRESSED IN FAVOR OF ROME AND SECRETARIAT CONTRADICTING EARLIER GROUP DRAFTS. COUNTRIES EXPRESSING THIS VIEW INCLUDED SWITZERLAND, CANADA, NETHERLANDS, JAPAN, AUSTRALIAN, IRELAND, AND GERMANY. AUSTRALIA HAS PARTICULARLY STRONG VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE. AUSTRALIA DELEGATE TO FAO COUNCIL SESSION HAS REITERATED THEM TO MORE THAN ONE MEMBER

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OF U.S. DELEGATION THIS LAST WEEK.

2. WE BELIEVE MOST LDCS, WITH EXCEPTION OF ALGERIA AND LEFT-WING, PREFER ROME AND FAO. IN OPENING MEETING OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE CONTACT GROUP ON FOLLOW-UP, NIGERIA ARGUED STRONGLY FOR CENTERING WHOLE AFFAIR IN FAO AND RECONSTITUTING FAO CONFERENCE AS WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. THIS IN FLAT CONTRADICTION TO ALGERIAN PROPOSAL PRESENTED AS G-77 PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS LATER ADMITTED NOT TO HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED BY AFRICAN, ASIAN, OR LATIN AMERICAN GROUPS. OTHER GROUP B COUNTRIES CONVEYED TO U.S. DELEGATION THAT MANY LDCS, ESPECIALLY AFRICAN AND LATIN AMERICAN FAVORED ROME AND FAO. WHEN GROUP B SPOKESMAN PROPOSED ROME AND FAO SECRETARIAT, THERE WAS NO DEMURRER FROM G-77 OR UNALIGNED. AS RECENTLY AS NOVEMBER 22, KENYA DELEGATION TO FAO COUNCIL TOLD MEMBER OF U.S. DELEGATION IT PREFERRED ROME AND FAO. SOCIALIST BLOC ALSO READILY AGREED.

3. FAO DEPUTY DIRECTOR JACKSON AND LEGAL COUNSEL CONTINI WERE SURPRISED AND PLEASED WHEN CONFERENCE DECIDED TO RECOMMEND ROME AND FAO SECRETARIAT. THEY HAD NOT EXPECTED THIS BECAUSE IT WAS NOT PROVIDED FOR IN ANY OF DRAFTS UNDER DISCUSSION. VOLPE

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